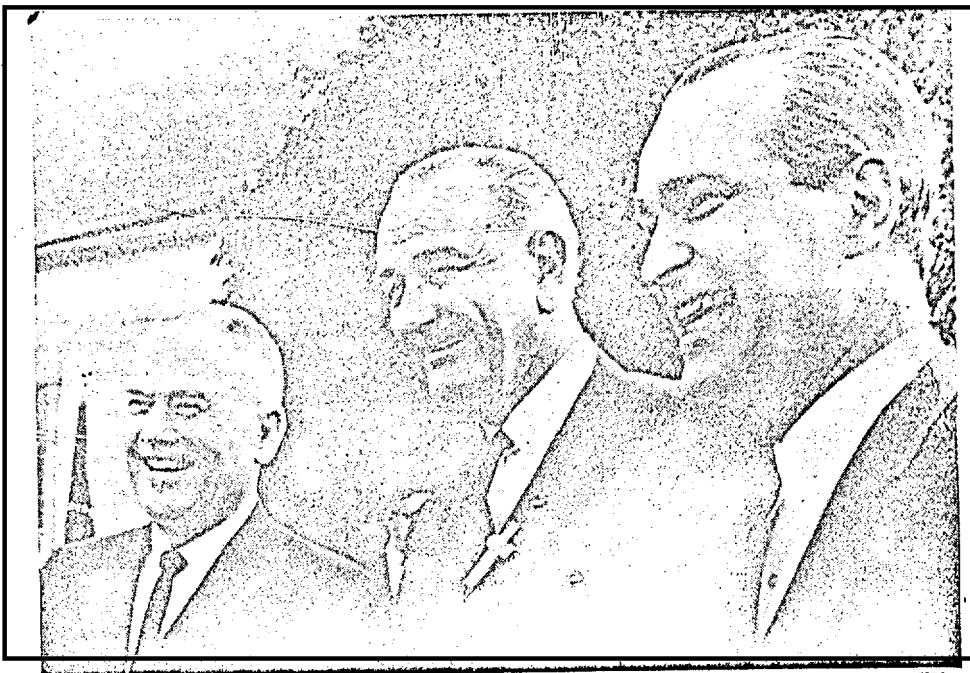


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Raborn, LBJ, Helms: The admiral's ship went down

Shake-up at CIA

President Johnson's announcement of the shake-up at the CIA was short and to the point: "I today accepted with regret the resignation of Adm. William F. Raborn as director of the Central Intelligence Agency. To replace Admiral Raborn, I am naming Richard McGarrah Helms, who is currently serving as Deputy Director of the CIA."

Only the timing of the announcement was surprising. For months it had been evident that Red Raborn's tenure, which began April 28, 1965, would not be lengthy. Despite his solid Navy reputation, Raborn hardly impressed his CIA colleagues; he once appalled a group of conferees by asking what "oligarchy" meant. After Raborn's first six months, old CIA hands remarked that Allen

Dulles ran a "happy ship," John McCone a "taut ship" and Raborn a "sinking ship." The President's confidence in him was shaken in March when Raborn insisted on accepting an award from the National Security Industrial Association, a lobby-like league numbering fat defense contractors among its members. Finally, Raborn failed to prove a good Administration witness on Capitol Hill.

The elevation of Richard Helms came as no surprise either. At the time of Raborn's appointment, Helms had been a contender for the job. A Pennsylvania-born graduate of Williams College and a European correspondent for the United Press in the 1930s, Helms began his career in intelligence with the Office of Strategic Services during World War II. The athletic-looking 6-footer is the first career officer to run the agency.

Helms speaks fluent German and French—but little of anything, when it comes to matters CIA. Following his promotion last week he said: "I think there's a tradition that the CIA is a silent service and it's a good one. I think the silence ought to begin with me."

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